

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 GSA-02 INT-08

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EA/K:HNEWSOM

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R 101329Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ETRD

SUBJECT: TUNGSTEN: CONSULTATIONS WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS
ON FY 1975 DISPOSAL PROGRAM

1. IN RECENT DAYS DEPARTMENT HAS CONSULTED WITH EMBASSIES
OF AUSTRALIA, BOLIVIA, CANADA, KOREA, PERU, AND THAILAND
CONCERNING FY 1975 DISPOSAL OF GSA-STOCKPILED TUNGSTEN.
EMBASSIES WERE REQUESTED TO TRANSMIT INFORMATION PROVIDED
TO HOME GOVERNMENTS AND TO PROVIDE DEPARTMENT WITH ANY
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COMMENTS CONCERNING PROPOSED FY 1975 PROGRAM WITHIN TEN

WORKING DAYS.

2. CURRENT FY'S TUNGSTEN DISPOSAL PROGRAM TOTALS SIX MILLION POUNDS TUNGSTEN (ALL FORMS). OF THIS AMOUNT, 4.5 MILLION LBS ARE FOR DOMESTIC USE, AND 1.5 MILLION LBS ARE FOR EXPORT. APPROXIMATELY 5.2 MILLION POUNDS HAD BEEN SOLD BY END OF MAY 1974. SINCE BEGINING OF 1974, TUNGSTEN ORE PRICES, AS QUOTED IN LONDON METAL BULLETIN, HAVE RISEN STEADILY, FROM RANGE OF DOLS 42.63 TO DOLS 45.15 PER SHORT TON UNIT (STU) ON JANUARY 3, 1974, TO RANGE OF DOLS 91.14 TO DOLS 98.74 PER STU AS OF MAY 30, 1974.

3. USG PROPOSES TO DISPOSE OF TOTAL OF TEN MILLION LBS TUNGSTEN (ALL FORMS) IN FY 1975 WITH NO SUB-LIMITS TO BE IMPOSED ON DOMESTIC OR EXPORT SALES.

4. GSA TUNGSTEN STOCKPILE AS OF END APRIL 1974 TOTALED 124.2 MILLION LBS TUNGSTEN (ALL FORMS), OF WHICH 118.2 MILLION LBS (95 PERCENT) WERE IN FORM OF ORES AND CONCENTRATES. CURRENT STOCKPILE OBJECTIVE IS 4.234 MILLION LBS (IN FORM OF ORES AND CONCENTRATES, LEAVING 120 MILLION LBS (ALL FORMS) EXCESS, OF WHICH 113.9 MILLION LBS IN FORM OF ORES AND CONCENTRATES. GSA CURRENTLY HAS LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY TO DISPOSE OF 99 MILLION LBS (ALL FORMS), INCLUDING 96.5 MILLION LBS IN FORM OF ORES AND CONCENTRATES.

5. POSTS NOT RPT NOT REQUESTED TAKE ANY ACTION. FOREGOING DATA SUPPLIED FOR POST INFORMATION ONLY, AND TO ENABLE POST RESPOND TO ANY HOST GOVERNMENT INQUIRIES THAT MAY BE MADE. DEPARTMENT WOULD OF COURSE BE INTERESTED IN HEARING OF ANY HOST GOVERNMENT APPROACHES TO POST CONCERNING TUNGSTEN DISPOSAL PROPOSAL. SISCO

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